<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 19, 2005. Claims 1 to 22 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21 and 22 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 21 and 22 have been amended to clarify that they are directed to a control program, stored in a computer-readable storage medium. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 2, 3 and 12 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, Claims 2, 3, and 12 to 14 were alleged to have insufficient basis for some of the limitations in the claims. In addition, Claims 2, 3, 12 and 13 were alleged to be indefinite. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, Applicant has amended the claims along the lines of the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Claims 1 to 3 and 5 to 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,872,900 (Tsuchitoi), U.S. Patent No. 6,348,972 (Taniguchi) and U.S. Patent 6,683,699 (Ashizaki). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuchitoi, Taniguchi and Ashizaki, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,438,433 (Reifman). Claims 11 to 13 and 15 to 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi and Ashizaki. Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taniguchi and Ashizaki, and in further view of Reifman. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a printer controller for controlling printing of print data. The printer controller includes: a storage unit adapted to store the print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data; an input unit adapted to enable a user to input authentication information to print the print data; and a display control unit adapted to, after the user inputs the authentication information, display a list of print data corresponding to the input authentication information on a display panel. The printer controller further includes a selection unit adapted to control the user to select at least one print data from the list of print data displayed on the display panel; and a control unit adapted to control the printing of the selected print data to be performed after confirming that a print charge for printing the print data selected by the user is paid.

Claim 6 as amended is directed to a printer controller that stores print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data and enables the user to input authentication information to print the print data. The printer controller transmits the input authentication information to the information processing apparatus and acquires information indicating the print data corresponding to the input authentication information from the information processing apparatus, and after the user inputs the authentication information, displays a list of print data corresponding to the input authentication information on a display panel. The printer controller then enables the user to select at least one print data from the displayed list of print data, acquires the selected print data from the information processing apparatus, and controls the printing of the acquired print data to be performed after confirming that a print charge for printing the selected print data is paid.

Claims 11 and 16 recite a method corresponding to claims 1 and 6, respectively. Claims 21 and 22 recite a program corresponding to claims 1 and 6, respectively.

The amended claims include the feature that a list of print data corresponding to certain authentication information is displayed on a display panel after the authentication information is input by the user. Therefore, inclusion can be avoided of any print data that do not correspond to the input authentication information in the list.

In contrast, Taniguchi discloses a printer that displays a list of print jobs on a display panel and allows the user to select a desired print job from the displayed list. Then the printer urges the user to enter a password. It is likely that during this process, some of the print jobs included in the list do not correspond to the password, since the password is entered after the list is displayed. Taniguchi therefore fails to disclose or suggest at least features of the display control unit, the selection unit, and the control unit as recited in Claim 1. Similarly, Taniguchi fails to disclose or suggest the display control unit, the selection unit, the data acquisition unit, and the control unit as recited in Claim 6.

The Office Action acknowledges that Tsuchitori fails to disclose the use authentication information. In addition, Ashizaki merely teaches controlling the printing of a selected print data after confirming that a print charge for printing the selected print data is paid. Therefore, neither Tsuchitori nor Ashizaki provide that which is missing from Taniguchi. Accordingly, neither Tsuchitori, Taniguchi nor Ashizaki, neither alone nor in combination, disclose or suggest collating authentication information input by a user to print the print data with the authentication information stored in the storage device; displaying, after the user inputs the authentication information, a list of print data corresponding to the input authentication information on a display panel and controlling the printer to perform the printing of at least one

print data selected by the user from the list of print data displayed on the display panel, after confirming that a print charge for printing the selected print data is paid.
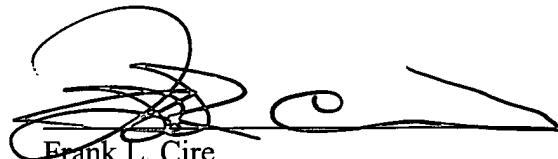
In light of the deficiencies of Tsuchitori, Taniguchi and Ashizaki as discussed above, Applicant submits that amended independent Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21 and 22 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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- 15 -